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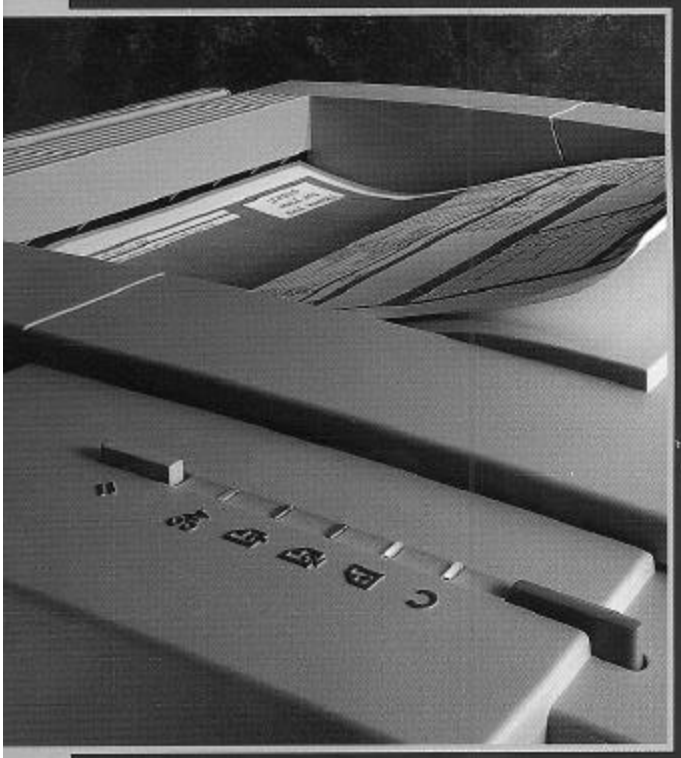
Troubleshooting & Repairing Computer Printers



Stephen J. Bigelow

Second Edition

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Introduction

PRINTERS HAVE BECOME AN INVALUABLE TOOL IN THE high-tech revolution. It seems that just about every computer owner has a printer on hand or has access to one at home or work. They can be found in offices, laboratories, stores, classrooms, factories, and homes throughout the United States (and much of the world). Printers have evolved into flexible, reliable devices using any one of several mature printing technologies. This book discusses those technologies in detail and shows you how many of today's printers work.

No matter how reliable the printer might be, it will eventually need some sort of maintenance and repair. This book is intended to provide the essential background information on printer mechanics and electronics, along with the techniques that will guide you through the troubleshooting and repair of just about any commercial printer. It is written for the hobbyist or repair technician with an intermediate knowledge of electronics and some working knowledge of mechanics. A knowledge of elementary troubleshooting would be helpful, but it is not a prerequisite. This book describes the basic operation and use of several common test instruments. Troubleshooting procedures are presented in a discussion format that will aid your overall understanding of the printer and how it works.

Changes in the second edition

This second edition incorporates some important changes and improvements over the original book. Probably the most notable change is the use of technical illustrations. Rather than the many sketches and interpretations that appeared in the first book, this edition uses an array of schematics, schematic fragments, block diagrams, and exploded views from actual printers. Such "real life" examples provide unprecedented coverage of a printer's assembly,

operation, and repair concerns. In addition to the improved illustrations, this edition also expands the coverage of symptoms and solutions of the original. This edition provides 150 complete symptoms and solutions, whereas the original book offered 60.

A chapter has been added to deal with Windows and Windows 95 printing problems. While purists might criticize this decision as "polluting" a good hardware book, it is virtually impossible today to separate the hardware from the operating system--even the slightest kink in a configuration can result in printing problems.

Another chapter deals with PRINTERS--the new companion disk for this book. PRINTERS provides an inexpensive, handy, multi-purpose printer troubleshooting tool capable of testing impact, ink jet, and EP printers with equal ease. For the first time, you have a source of "standard" test patterns, which have been specifically designed to help you resolve the major problem areas of most printers. You also can enter escape codes manually to test even the most obscure feature. You can find the order form for PRINTERS at the back of this book, along with information on our premier troubleshooting newsletter *The PC Toolbox*.

Every possible measure was taken to ensure a thorough and comprehensive book. Your comments, questions, and suggestions about this book are welcome at any time, as well as any personal troubleshooting experiences that you might like to share. Feel free to write to me directly:

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Electronics

- Thoroughly revised and updated
- 150 symptoms and solutions completely explained
- Covers impact, thermal, ink jet, and electrophotographic printers
- Discusses Windows and Windows 95 printing problems
- Includes companion disk offer

This hugely popular, best-selling manual has been completely overhauled and improved to ensure its standing as the definitive book on computer printer diagnosis and repair. Now featuring flowcharts and detailed schematics, block diagrams, and exploded-view illustrations throughout, it offers comprehensive coverage of the latest trends and new technologies that affect this lucrative area of electronics service, including printing under Windows 95.

Author Stephen Bigelow provides you with specific maintenance and repair techniques that will save you time and make sure the job is done correctly the first time. You'll also find complete details on how to use test equipment; troubleshooting tips, guidelines, and methods; and a full chapter devoted to common printing problems under Windows and Windows 95.

And now you can order the companion disk, *PRINTERS*—a valuable trouble-shooting toolkit for testing impact, ink jet, and electrophotographic printers—by using the enclosed money-saving coupon and order form.

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